

CLAIMS

1. A device for reading and/or writing information from and on, respectively, a track (24) on a medium (2), comprising a read and/or write head (3) which is movable in transverse direction relative to said track (24) and comprising a carriage (21) which can be moved in transverse direction by positioning means (5, 20) and means for maintaining the reading and/or writing operation at a scanning point on the track during a movement in transverse direction of the track relative to the carriage, means (10) for supplying to a control circuit (6), a signal representative of a desired change in the position of the read and/or write head (3) in transverse direction from an initial position to a final position, which control circuit (6) is arranged for processing information from said representative signal into control signals for said positioning means (5, 20), and which control circuit (6) is furthermore arranged for generating a control signal at a first point of time and supplying said signal to the positioning means (5, 20) so as to cause them to move the read and/or write head (3) from the initial position to the final position, characterized in that said first point of time occurs at a moment when the maintaining means (22) of the read and/or write head (3) are still reading and/or writing the track (24) in the scanning point at the initial position.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said first point of time occurs at a moment when the carriage (21) is already moving from the initial position to the final position, at which moment the maintaining means (22) of the read and/or write head (3) are still reading and/or writing the track (24) in the scanning point at the initial position.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said first point in time occurs at such a moment that the end (29) of the track (24) to be read or written is reached at a moment when the carriage (21) is already moving from the initial position to the final position while the scanning point (22) is still on said track (24).

4. A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the control circuit (6) is furthermore arranged for carrying out a signal processing operation (13), wherein the direction of the desired change of position relative to the initial position is

derived from said representative signal, and for supplying the signal to the positioning means (5, 20) already at the first point in time so as to initiate the change of position in the direction derived from said representative signal before all the information from said representative signal has been processed by said control circuit (6).

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